

Growthton, Feb. 25th 1843

My dear friends, Thanks for your gifts! Lizzy is fond of appropriation, so, last year I yielded my claim to your treasured little note, which is placed in her Autograph Book, and the 'Liberty Bell' remained for me, with its many gems. This year I have to thank you for your beautiful 'Report.' You have showered favours upon us, and if we are unworthy, we are not ungrateful.

We owe your noble band much, indeed! We live in the agitation you create, for in our own land is the stillness of death; such as stillness as always reigns where a sceptred monarch ^{remains} reigns, where time-worn institutions still exist in all their power though the ages that called for them have passed. I love agitation, for life never exists motionless. Our struggle for free trade is a glorious struggle; and we may yet hope, should commercial liberty be gained. But I am writing like a patriot; and a patriot, in the common sense of the term, I do not profess to be. Even a philanthropist has plenty of room in England - in England, if any where; & so H. C. Wright seems to think, for he has a sleepless time of it amongst us. My brother has just this moment received a note from him, in which he says (It is dated from Manchester) "I have lectured at the rate of once a day for the last twelve days, and meetings are appointed for about every day for fifteen to come, so I am desperately pushed - driving hither and thither. I wouldn't mind if I could sleep, but I am doomed to almost perpetual wakefulness. I spent two nights recently with John Bright. He is a glorious fellow! gone to London, now, to agitate there. Cobden has been giving it to Peel, and Peel has made a fool of himself. There is great excitement about the Corn-laws and the League. The Anti-Leaguers are pushing the League up to come out on

the doctrine of absolute free Trade - No restitution no restriction. I cannot, and say they dare not. - But Bright does. - Moore does - Thompson does. The two last nights I lectured in Bolton - was with Henry Ashworth. Friends Meeting houses were open for me in Rochdale and Bolton. &c. - H. C. Wright attacks the roots of the corrupt tree; he seeks an entrance into the inner temple of the heart. Our dear friend is much beloved by many in Ireland. - Ireland has not greatly aided your Bazaar this year. You can scarcely expect a barren soil to yield rich produce. Remond's presence and eloquent appeals did much to arouse a transient zeal in behalf of "the Cause", but that quickly vanished. The Irish, you know, are a mercurial race - The most only hope that as information spreads, hearts will be gained - and hearts - can never desert you it, until its triumph shall be complete. Kind remembrance to C. L. Remond - Could he not sometimes afford an hour to his Irish friends? - A parcel of Liberators arrived a few days past, & we have, since their arrival, been living in your midst - hanging on your words. - But I must "cease", as my half sheet is filled

With much regard - I remain yours, very truly,

Sarah Poole.

Dear Friend - The first piece of information I must give you is that we are not "Elizabeth and Sarah Poole" but "Sarah & Elizabeth, or Eliza, or Lizzy, Poole" - Sarah is four years older, & four years wiser, and ten years better than Lizzy - Yours presents are very beautiful, & doubly valuable to us because of the well known handwriting within them - We are grateful for your kind feelings towards us, & wrangle our heads in vain to know upon what foundation they are built for although we fancy we are intimately acquainted with Mrs. Chapman, it seems strange that she should think she has any knowledge of us - I fancy your imagination is active, as I am sure it is flattering - "Socrates in Boston" is exceedingly searching and well written - Will not Lord Morpeth & R. D. Webb be astonished at finding their disclaimers swelling the peal? My friend Robert K. K. Moore sent me some lines ~~written~~ written by him on receipts of the Liberty Bell for 1842. I think it

^{night}
I wish I had finished this before tea - I seemed then to have much to see
now feel, wordless and hopeless, after five minutes' self-contemplation
I can wish me to say that of course Moore's verse may undergo any
polishing you think fit to apply - Henry C. Wright has won his way
to all our hearts - he wrote several letters to us from Manchester
and of them gives a most vivid description of the anti Corn law meetings
of O'Connell, Moore, Buckingham, &c, &c. I ought not to forget Colonel J. P.
Thompson, whom W.C.W. greatly liked - England and Scotland are
boldly struggling for the nation's life - Ireland is indifferent to the
free-trade movement - the landowners are almost universally opposed
to any alteration - and the farmers fear that they should be dreadfully
sack-rented if "protection" were removed; that rents would not be lowered
to suit altered circumstances - To those who fully understand the
subject the Corn Laws must appear suicidal.

Please excuse this hasty production, and believe me your grateful friend
Lizzy Poole

1843

LEFORD
FEB 26
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Single

paid

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